

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A separating device—(7), in particular for use in a film dispenser—(1), including a separating profile section—(6), said separating device—(7), which comprises at least one separating knife (8, 22) and a press element—(9), being supported such that it is movable along said separating profile section—(6) relative to a material that is adapted to be cut, in particular a material in the form of webs or sheets, wherein the press element—(9) is implemented as a moving strip—(11, 12) which is supported such that it is adapted to circulate at least in said separating device—(7) and which causes the material adjacent to the separating knife—(8, 22) to remain tensed at least in a linear manner along the direction of displacement—(13) of said knife, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the separating device comprises a handle housing—(15) provided with a guide member (21) and that the moving strip—(11, 12) is placed around said guide member with a certain amount of play.

2. (Currently Amended) A separating device according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the material has the form of a slip of film.

3. (Currently Amended) A separating device according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein at least one moving strip—(11, 12) is arranged on either side of the separating knife—(8, 22).

4. (Currently Amended) A separating device according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the moving strip ~~(11, 12)~~ is rotatably supported.

5. (Currently Amended) A separating device according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the moving strip ~~(11, 12)~~ is guided essentially parallel to the separating profile section ~~(6)~~ in the direction of displacement ~~(13)~~ of the separating knife ~~(8)~~.

6. (Currently Amended) A separating device according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein a parallel guide means ~~(14)~~ of the separating device ~~(7)~~, which is used for guiding the moving strip ~~(11, 12)~~, extends beyond the separating knife ~~(8, 22)~~ on both sides in the direction of displacement ~~(13)~~.

7. (Currently Amended) A separating device according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the separating device ~~(7)~~ comprises a handle housing ~~(15)~~, especially a bipartite handle housing ~~(15)~~, in which the separating knife ~~(8, 22)~~ is held and in which the moving strip ~~(11, 12)~~ is guided.

8. (Currently Amended) A separating device according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the separating device ~~(7)~~ comprises a handle housing ~~(15)~~ which is adapted to be lockingly attached to an inner member, the moving strips ~~(11, 12)~~ being placed around said inner member and the separating knife ~~(8, 22)~~ projecting, between the moving strips ~~(11, 12)~~, beyond a lower surface of said inner member.

9. (Currently Amended) A separating device according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein at least one handle-housing half ~~(16, 17)~~ is provided with a fastening element ~~(18)~~ for the separating knife ~~(8, 22)~~, and that one handle-housing half ~~(17, 16)~~ is provided with a stop element ~~(19)~~ for the separating knife ~~(8, 22)~~.

10. (Currently Amended) A separating device according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the fastening element ~~(18)~~ and/or the stop element ~~(19)~~ are implemented as peg- or pin-shaped elements.

11. (Currently Amended) A separating device according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the handle-housing half ~~(16, 17)~~ is provided with a slot-shaped guide means ~~(20)~~ for the moving strip ~~(11, 12)~~.

12. (Currently Amended) A separating device according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein one moving strip ~~(11, 12)~~ is guided in each handle-housing half ~~(16, 17)~~.

13. (Currently Amended) A separating device according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the separating knife ~~(8, 22)~~ is held between the handle-housing halves ~~(16, 17)~~.

14. (Currently Amended) A separating device according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the separating knife ~~(8, 22)~~ and the inner member are formed as an integral component.

15. (Currently Amended) A separating device according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the moving strip ~~(11, 12)~~ is guided with a certain amount of play around an approximately kidney-shaped guide member ~~(21)~~ in the handle-housing half ~~(16, 17)~~.

16. (Currently Amended) A separating device according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the separating knife ~~(8, 22)~~ used for cutting a plastic film is made of metal.

17. (Currently Amended) A separating device according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the separating knife ~~(8, 22)~~ is injection moulded molded into said inner member.

18. (Currently Amended) A separating device according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the separating knife ~~(8, 22)~~ used for cutting an ~~aluminium~~ aluminum foil is made of plastic material.

19. (Currently Amended) A separating device according to claim 17, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the separating knife ~~(8, 22)~~ is formed integrally with said inner member from plastic material.

20. (Currently Amended) A separating device according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the separating knife ~~(8, 22)~~ is provided with a base element ~~(25)~~ which is guided in a suitable guide means ~~(23)~~ along a cutting slot ~~(24)~~ of the separating profile section ~~(6)~~.

21. (Currently Amended) A film dispenser ~~(1)~~ provided with a separating device ~~(7)~~ according to one of the preceding claims, said film dispenser comprising a housing ~~(4)~~ provided with at least one dispensing compartment ~~(2, 3)~~ and the separating profile section ~~(6)~~ being associated with a dispensing opening ~~(5)~~ of a dispensing compartment ~~(2, 3)~~, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the separating profile section ~~(6)~~ is formed in a flap ~~(28)~~ which is associated with the dispensing compartment ~~(2, 3)~~ and which is supported such that it is pivotable between an open position ~~(26)~~ and a closed position ~~(27)~~, said flap ~~(28)~~ being releasably locked with said housing ~~(4)~~ especially in the closed position ~~(27)~~.

22. (Currently Amended) A film dispenser according to claim 21, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein especially by means of support axles ~~(33, 34)~~ projecting from the lateral ends ~~(29,~~

30) of the flap-(28), the flap-(28) is at the lateral ~~ends~~  
ends (29, 30) thereof supported in the housing-(4) such that  
it is adapted to be pivoted and/or locked in said housing-(4).

23. (Currently Amended) A film dispenser according to  
claim 21, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein lateral cheeks-(31,  
32) projecting from lateral ends of the flap in the direction  
of the respective dispensing compartment have an elastically  
deflectable arm-(35) on which a locking element-(36) is  
arranged, said locking element-(36) being in engagement with a  
counter-locking element-(37) on the housing-(4) in the closed  
position-(27).

24. (Currently Amended) A film dispenser according to  
claim 21, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein recesses-(40, 41) are  
formed in lateral housing end walls-(38, 39), said recesses  
(40, 41) being open in the direction of the flap-(28) and  
accommodating mating bodies-(42) arranged on the lateral cheek  
(31, 32), especially on the free end-(43) of the arm-(35), in  
the closed position-(27) of the flap-(28).

25. (Currently Amended) A film dispenser according to  
claim 21, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the recess-(40, 41) is  
essentially semicircular and that the cross-section of the  
mating body-(42) has essentially the shape of a circular  
segment.

26. (Currently Amended) A film dispenser according to  
claim 21, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein an edge-(44) of the  
recess-(40, 41) is implemented as a locking protrusion-(37)  
along at least part of its length.

27. (Currently Amended) A film dispenser according to  
claim 21, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the flap-(28) is  
provided with a boundary projection-(45), which is located  
above the mating body-(42) and which, at the closed position

~~(27)~~ of the flap ~~(28)~~, is arranged in the recess ~~(40, 41)~~ such that it is flush with the surface of the front side ~~(46)~~ of the housing ~~(4)~~, especially the arm ~~(35)~~ in the lateral cheek ~~(31, 32)~~ of the flap ~~(28)~~ being delimited by two slot-shaped openings ~~(47, 48)~~ which are open towards said boundary projection ~~(45)~~.

28. (Currently Amended) A film dispenser according to claim 21, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein an axle guide means ~~(49)~~ for accommodating the support axle ~~(33, 34)~~ projecting from the side face of the flap is formed laterally adjacent to the recess ~~(40, 41)~~ on the housing ~~(4)~~, said axle guide means ~~(49)~~ being open towards said recess.

29. (Currently Amended) A film dispenser according to claim 21, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein on an inner side ~~(50)~~ of the flap ~~(28)~~ facing the housing ~~(4)~~, a guide channel ~~(51, 52)~~ is formed, which extends along the cutting slot ~~(24)~~ and in which the base element ~~(25)~~ is accommodated and/or guided.

30. (Currently Amended) A film dispenser according to claim 21, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the side walls ~~(53)~~ of said guide channel ~~(51, 52)~~ are provided with longitudinal openings ~~(55)~~ which are spaced apart in the longitudinal direction ~~(54)~~, especially one of said longitudinal openings ~~(55)~~ being implemented as an insertion opening ~~(56)~~ for the separating knife ~~(8)~~.

31. (Currently Amended) A film dispenser according to claim 21, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the side walls ~~(53)~~ of said guide channel ~~(51, 52)~~ enclose an acute angle ~~(57)~~ with the inner side ~~(50)~~ of the flap ~~(28)~~.

32. (Currently Amended) A film dispenser according to claim 21, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein at least one guide

means ~~(58, 59)~~ for the base element ~~(25)~~ is arranged along the cutting slot ~~(24)~~ on the inner side ~~(50)~~ of the flap ~~(28)~~.

33. (Currently Amended) A film dispenser according to claim 21, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the flap ~~(28)~~ is provided with a pivotable flap ~~(60)~~ which is pivotably supported thereon through a film hinge ~~(63)~~ and which defines an edge ~~(62)~~ of the cutting slot ~~(24)~~ in the closed position ~~(61)~~ thereof.

34. (Currently Amended) A film dispenser according to claim 21, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the pivotable flap ~~(60)~~ has, on the lower side thereof, at least one locking projection ~~(65)~~ formed especially on an elastically deflectable locking arm ~~(66)~~ and engaging a longitudinal opening ~~(55, 56)~~ of the guide channel ~~(51, 52)~~ when the flap ~~(60)~~ occupies the closed position ~~(61)~~.

35. (Currently Amended) A film dispenser according to claim 21, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the flap ~~(28)~~ is provided with a guide channel ~~(67)~~ which extends in the longitudinal direction ~~(54)~~ thereof and which has arranged therein a strip ~~(68)~~ comprising the cutting slot ~~(24)~~ of the separating profile section ~~(6)~~, said strip ~~(68)~~ being especially removably arranged in said guide channel ~~(67)~~.

36. (Currently Amended) A film dispenser according to claim 21, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the strip ~~(68)~~ provided with the separating profile section ~~(6)~~ and used for cutting the film/foil is adapted to be handled independently of the film dispenser ~~(1)~~.

37. (Currently Amended) A film dispenser according to claim 21, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the guide channel ~~(67)~~ is open on at least one end ~~(69)~~ thereof.

38. (Currently Amended) A film dispenser according to claim 21, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the strip ~~(68)~~ is adapted to be arranged in the guide channel ~~(67)~~ in such a way that its upper surface ~~(70)~~ is substantially flush with the front side ~~(46)~~ of the flap ~~(28)~~, the cutting slot ~~(24)~~ extending in said upper surface ~~(70)~~.

39. (Currently Amended) A film dispenser according to claim 21, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the strip ~~(68)~~ has a substantially square cross-section with support flanges projecting outwardly from the upper surface ~~(70)~~ thereof.

40. (Currently Amended) A film dispenser according to claim 21, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the strip ~~(68)~~ is substantially hollow and that the base element ~~(25)~~ of the separating knife ~~(8, 22)~~ is guided in said strip ~~(68)~~.

41. (Currently Amended) A film dispenser according to claim 21, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the strip ~~(68)~~ is adapted to be secured in position, especially locked in position in the guide channel ~~(67)~~.

42. (Currently Amended) A film dispenser according to claim 21, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein a friction-increasing coating is applied along the cutting slot ~~(24)~~, at least along one side thereof.

43. (Currently Amended) A separating device according to claim 21, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the moving strip ~~(11, 12)~~ is formed of a material with increased friction, or that the outer surface ~~(71)~~ thereof, which comes into contact with the slip of film, comprises said material.

44. (Currently Amended) A film dispenser according to claim 21, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the housing ~~(4)~~ has a



rear wall—(72) which extends at an oblique angle upwards and  
forwards.